

### MEETING NOTICES

#### FAREAST CHAPTER

will meet on October 5th, 10:00 am, at the Spokane County Public Works Building, Conference Room C, 3rd floor. The agenda includes: Update from EBoard, Technical Committees and Chapters and Fall Conference; Nominations and Election of Chair of FarEast Chapter; Update on CRIS; Group Discussions on: What we are doing, what is working and what has not worked. Any questions, call Chair Howard at (509) 324-3458.

#### NORTHWEST and PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

Will hold a joint meeting in Everett on September 13th, 10:00 am until noon, at the City of Everett Transit Training Center, 3225 Cedar Street same place as the previous meeting in Everett. One presentation is scheduled, Don Eginton, GIS Manager, will discuss Snohomish's leadership and progress in using information technology. Call NW Chair Randy at (206) 388-6420, ext. 3233, or PS Chair Pat at (360) 754-4580 for particulars.

#### VISUAL RATING TECHCOM

The Visual Condition Survey Technical Committee will soon be proposing a project to the Executive Board. This project will review and modify the current Condition Survey Manual to better fit current local agency practices in Washington. The committee has now met twice, July 12 in Renton and August 16 in Tacoma, to discuss this possible project. Attendance has been good and 14 organizations have been represented at the meetings. Once approval is obtained from the EBoard, the committee will develop a draft document for membership review. If you have any ideas or would like to get involved and have not yet notified Chair Bill Whitcomb, please contact him at (360) 696-8290 or FAX him at (360) 696-8588.

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rumor has it there will be a EBoard meeting in early September, but... Contact Chair Eric at (206) 596-2957 to see what is going on!

#### SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

Will hold their next meeting 10:00 am, Wednesday, September 6th at Franklin County Public Works, 3416 Stearman Street, Pasco. More details in the next issue, call Chair Sue at (509) 786-5611 for suggestions or information.

#### SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

No meeting scheduled at press time, call Chair Bill MCentire at (360) 694-2446, xl 620.

#### NDT TechCom

The Road Rater Operating Manual and Video Tape project is underway, the experts have met in Spokane to work on them. No other meeting scheduled at press time, Chair is Dave Shepard, (360) 699-2446, xl 621

#### DESIGN TechCom

No meeting scheduled at press time, Chair is Dave Nichols, (360) 754-4580.

#### CENTERLINE PMS USER GROUP

will hold their next meeting on September 19th at the City of Bellevue. Topics will include the development of repair strategies and budgeting. The meeting is open to all, contact Derald Christensen at (206) 851-3200 for details.

#### WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

Now that Fall is here, it is time for the NWPMA Annual Conference. The agenda is filled with interesting sessions, and will provide good information for everyone. It will be a good chance to learn about Pavement Management. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Conference. Eric

## Defense Technology Adapted for Pavement Distress Analysis

LORAL Defense Systems Arizona was recently awarded a 1-year contract to provide FHWA's Pavement Performance Division with an automated means of analyzing pavement distresses. Dubbed ADAPT (Automated Distress Analysis for Pavement), the new system will allow FHWA to interpret and analyze 35-mm film recorded at pavement test sites to determine the types of distress affecting the pavement.

Under the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP), Pasco USA began filming stretches of pavement that were part of the long-term pavement performance (LTPP) study. The work was done at night, using truck-mounted cameras and controlled lighting. Unlike manual pavement surveys, the film provides a permanent record of pavement distress at a specific site at a specific time. But the system currently used to analyze the film was not accurate or consistent enough for a rigorous research program. This new system will improve the consistency and accuracy of the analysis.

ADAPT uses LORAL's automatic target recognition (ATR) system and exploitation software, which allows you to zoom in on an area for detailed examination. This technology was originally developed for defense applications. The ADAPT system will greatly reduce the time required to characterize surface, distresses and improve the consistency and quality of image interpretations.

"We are excited about the possibilities that this technology has to offer. Until recently it was used only for classified military purposes, but now it can be converted for our use in transportation. It will allow us to accurately read and interpret distress data, which means better pavement analysis", says FHWA's Aramis Lopez, highway research engineer and

LTPP team leader.

The scope of the contract includes: system design; algorithm analysis; software engineering; domain knowledge transference; system validation; delivery of a turnkey system; and personnel training.

The films from LTPP test sites will be the first to be analyzed using the ADAPT system. Only one round of filming at those test sites remains under the existing contract (filming is conducted at 18-month intervals). Once the ADAPT system is fully developed, it will be used to analyze all the films from all the LTPP test sections. The films, together with positives made from the negatives, are being stored at FHWA's Materials Reference Library in Reno, NV. Copies of the positives are sent to the States.

The ADAPT system uses the distress definitions published in SHRP's *Distress Identification Manual for the Long-Term Pavement Performance Project*. The film will be digitized, and the data will be recorded on a CD-ROM. The ADAPT system will then be able to analyze the film frame by frame to interpret the types of distress indicated on the film.

"The ADAPT system will automatically recognize different types of pavement distress," says Lopez. "This new system will give us the consistency and accuracy that we need."

After undergoing a series of quality assurance checks, the data will be uploaded to the LTPP National Information Management System (NIMS), where it will be accessible to highway engineers, researchers, and others.

For more information about the ADAPT system, contact Aramis Lopez at (703) 285-2013.

From May, 1995, *SHRP Focus*

## **ADC TECHCOM EQUIPMENT EVALUATION UNDERWAY**

The Automated Data Collection evaluation pavement condition ratings are coming in! Several agencies have completed their visual rating of the test sites, and the ADC equipment have completed their evaluations. The final report is expected sometime around the end of the year. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Sunde at (360) 705-7383.

With the interest being developed in our evaluation project, a multi-state (WA & OR) technical team has been formed to proceed with Phase II, the evaluation of GPS and Video-Logging equipment. The first meeting was held August 24th, for details contact Dan Sunde at (360) 705-7383.

## **THE95**

The Northwest Truck Heavy Equipment Exposition (THE) is taking place at the Portland Exposition Center on September 20-22. Vendors will be exhibiting the latest and greatest equipment, six interesting seminars, a Bar-B-Que, and a fashion show featuring the latest in safety apparel and accessories. Preregistration is free, \$20 at the gate. For more information, please call THE95 Show Management at (800) 848-7468.

## **IDAHO ASPHALT CONFERENCE**

The 34th Annual Idaho Asphalt Conference will be held on Thursday, October 26th, 1995, at the University Inn - Best Western, in Moscow Idaho. The conference is sponsored by the Idaho Transportation Department, the University of Idaho, and The Asphalt Institute. Tentative program topics include Pavement Recycling, Seal Coat Options, Pavement Maintenance, Hot-Mix Compaction, and Performance Based Specifications. Time is available for questions and discussion after each presentation. For technical information, call Ed Schlect, Asphalt Institute at (360) 786-5119, Dwayne Winn, ITD, at (208) 334-8450, or Fouad Bayomy, UI, at (208) 885-6784. To pre-register, call UI Office of Continuing Education and Public Service at (208) 885-6876. Registration will be \$50, which includes a luncheon and beverages at breaks.

## **ASPHALT INSTITUTE PROGRAMS**

We recently received flyers from the Asphalt Institute, describing a Basics of Asphalt course and a Superpave Workshop.

Basics, A Short Course on Asphalt Pavements, is a two and a half day course stressing the basic principles of asphalt design, construction, and rehabilitation. Participants will gain a general understanding of all aspects of asphalt pavements, including materials, mix design, construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation. Upon completion, the participant should be able to make knowledgeable decisions relating to asphalt pavement design, construction, and rehabilitation techniques. There are 5 courses being offered: Reno, NV, 11/13-15/95; Nashville, TN, 11/14-16/95; Anaheim, CA, 1/27-29/95; Atlantic City, NJ, 12/13-15/95; and San Antonio, TX, 12/18-20/95. Cost of the course is \$375 per person.

The Future of Asphalt Mix Design, Superpave Asphalt Technology Workshop is designed to provide sufficient Superpave technology so that participants become aware of similarities and differences from current procedures and can make informed decisions on Superpave implementation. The workshop is based on materials developed from the Asphalt Institute's National Asphalt Training Center contract with FHWA. The workshop will concentrate on two primary parts of Superpave: the performance graded (PG) asphalt binder specifications and the Level 1 mix design procedures. This 1-1/2 day workshop will be presented in 17 cities, the only one in the Northwest is in Seattle on November 2nd and 3rd. (or Las Vegas September 21-22) Cost is \$60 per person.

For more information, call the Asphalt Institute Seminar Coordinator - (606) 288-4964.

## **FOR SALE - ROAD RATER**

Pacific Pavement Services has a Road Rater - Max. Load 6500 PSI for sale, in 'Like New' condition. If you are interested in owning a Road Rater, or obtaining some NDT services, contact Dick McCluer at Pacific Pavement Services at (360) 574-7072.

## **NWPMA FALL CONFERENCE**

If you haven't yet received your conference notice, you will soon, be sure to register early at the special early registration rate. The conference will be held at the newly remodeled Holiday Inn Select, formerly the Quality Inn - Westwater, in Olympia, on Courthouse Hill, overlooking beautiful Capital Lake.

The conference will start with a lunch at noon on Tuesday, October 17th and end mid-afternoon on Thursday, October 19th. Chairs Pat Carroll and Dave Nichols of Thurston County and Greg Stoltz of the City of Olympia have put together a fantastic program, packed with interesting topics and speakers, time to spend with the various vendors to learn how they can help your efforts, and plenty of opportunities for discussion with your counterparts in other agencies. Give Pat or Dave a call at (360) 754-4580 if you want to assist or have any comments.

Be sure to attend the Awards Banquet on Wednesday Night, where you will enjoy some fine entertainment and see who the 1995 Pavement Manager of the Year will be.

Be there or be Alligatored!

## **RATE-OFF AND THUMP-OFF**

Although the official program starts with lunch on Tuesday, you will probably wish to be there bright and early (at least early) on Tuesday morning, for the Annual Thump-Off and Rate-Off. Bring your hard hat and vest, so you will be safe on the streets of Olympia, pink tennis shoes not required. The Chairs are out looking for interesting pavements to rate, so come rate the segments and compare your methods and results to the other raters. There will also be demonstrations and discussions of ratings by the experts. Rumor has it that Sue Schuetze and Bill Bullock will bring their bicycles to show us how well they work!

For those entering the Thump-Off, there will be parking for your van and Road-Rater on the hotel's heliport.

We have a block of rooms reserved for Monday night at the conference rate, so come on Monday, enjoy the company of other Pavement Managers on Monday evening, and join in the Rate-Off and Thump-Off on Tuesday morning!

Northwest Pavement Management Association Newsletter  
c/o County Road Administration Board  
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